



March 12, 2007

H.R. 1126 – To reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988

Floor Situation

H.R. 1126 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Daniel Lipinski (D-IL) on February 16, 2007. The bill was ordered to be reported from the Committee on Science and Technology, by voice vote, on February 28, 2007.

H.R. 1126 is expected to be considered on the floor on March 12, 2007.

**Note: An identical bill, H.R. 1195, passed the House of Representatives by voice vote on April 26, 2005. H.R. 1195 was received in the Senate, but no action was taken.*

Summary

H.R. 1126 would reauthorize the Steel and Aluminum Energy and Conversation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988 (PL 100-680) until 2012.

The bill adds a section to PL 100-680 that calls for the use of technologies which reduce greenhouse gas emissions during the production of steel.

H.R. 1126 authorizes \$12,000,000 to be appropriated for each of the fiscal years 2008 through 2012.

Background

The Steel and Aluminum Energy Conservation and Technology Competitiveness Act of 1988 (S. 2470) was signed into law by President Reagan on November 17, 1988 (PL 100-680). The legislation was sponsored by Sen. Howard Metzenbaum (D-OH).

The Act directed the Secretary of Energy to design a program to research and develop energy efficiency and competitiveness of American steel. Included in “steel” are aluminum, copper and other metals.

The Act directed the Secretary to report annually to the President and Congress. Included in the Act were provisions requiring companies receiving federal funds to have a written and enforced policy on controlled substances; the bill required a drug-free workforce in order to receive federal funds. President Ronald Reagan signed Executive Order 12564, which required federal agencies to develop programs and policies to achieve drug free

workplaces, which is still in place today. The Drug Free Workplace Act was passed in 1986, which led to regulations by federal agencies requiring random testing of contract workers where there were concerns related to public safety or national security.

Cost

Assuming appropriation of the specified amounts, CBO estimates that implementing the bill would increase discretionary spending by \$6 million in 2008 and \$54 million over the next five years. Enacting H.R. 1126 would not affect direct spending or revenues.

Staff Contact

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